

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOWER ALLOWAYS CREEK HELD JANUARY 18, 2022**

A Regular Meeting of the Lower Alloways Creek Township Committee was held on January 18, 2022 with Mayor Timothy W. Bradway calling the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

STATEMENT OF NOTICE GIVEN

The Township Clerk read the following statement.

This is a Regular Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek being held in compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act" N.J.S.A. 10:4-6. To insure the right of citizens to have adequate advance notice of and the right to attend meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting them is discussed or acted upon. Advance written notice of this meeting was given by way of the Annual Notice which was filed with the Lower Alloways Creek Township Clerk, forwarded to the South Jersey Times and posted on the Bulletin Board in the lobby of the Lower Alloways Creek Township Municipal Building in compliance with said Act.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Bradway led in the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE

Present: Mr. Collier, Mr. Crane, Mr. Palombo, Mr. Venable and Mayor Bradway

Absent: none

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Also in attendance were nine-(9) members of the public including, Superintendent of Public Works, Lewis Fogg; Police Chief Richard Venable; Fire Chief, Steve Fisher; Solicitor, Linwood Donelson III and Township Clerk, Ronald L Campbell Sr.

PAYMENT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS

Motion (Venable, Collier) that all properly audited vouchers be paid.

The motion to pay properly audited vouchers passed a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 4-0-1

Ayes: Venable, Collier, Crane, Palombo and Bradway

Nays: none Abstain: Venable # 24055 Absent: none

REPORTS TO THE COMMITTEE

The Mayor requested that the minutes reflect that the December 2021 Monthly reports to the Township Committee have been received from the following Departments and are on file with the Clerk: Construction Office, Engineer, Finance, Municipal Court, Police Department, Public Works, Sewer and Tax Collector.

MINUTES

Motion (Venable, Collier) to approve the Regular and Closed Session Meeting Minutes of the Township Committee Meeting held on December 21, 2021 and the Meeting Minutes of the 2022 Township Committee Reorganization meeting held January 1, 2022.

The motion to approve the Regular and Closed Session Meeting Minutes of the Township Committee Meeting held on December 21, 2021 and the Meeting Minutes of the 2022 Township Committee Reorganization meeting held January 1, 2022 passed a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 4-0-1

Ayes: Venable, Collier, Crane on Reorganization Minutes, Palombo and Bradway

Nays: none Abstain: Crane on December 21 Meeting Minutes and Closed Session Minutes

Absent: none

RESOLUTIONS

Motion (Venable, Bradway) for Resolution 2022-16, a Resolution to appoint various; Officers of the Township, Sub-Committees of the Township Committee and other Board members.

RESOLUTION 2022-16

RESOLUTION APPOINTING OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF LOWER ALLOWAYS CREEK AND FOR THE TERMS SPECIFIED

BE IT RESOLVED that the following positions and terms, where not otherwise set by statute, are established for the year 2022, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek, in the County of Salem and the State of New Jersey, that the following officers of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek and the following Committees and other appointees be and the same are hereby appointed to the positions and for the terms herein set forth. (* bold names are those for appointment, others listed for information purposes and may change based on previous Committee actions)

POSITION	NAME	EXPIRES
* Indoor Air Quality Coordinator	Lewis Fogg	12/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Stormwater Management Coordinator	Lewis Fogg	12/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Animal Control Officer	Ned Shimp	12/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Animal Cruelty Investigator		12/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Animal Registrar	Ronald L Campbell Sr.	12/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Asst Animal Control		12/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Clean Communities Coordinator	Lewis Fogg	12/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Deputy Animal Registrar	Kevin Clour	12/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Deputy Clerk	Kevin Clour	12/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Municipal Recycling Coordinator	Lance Kaufmann	12/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Municipal Search Officer	Ronald L Campbell Sr.	12/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Public Agency Compliance Officer	Ronald L Campbell Sr.	12/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Purchasing Agent	Kevin Clour	01/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Right to Know Coordinator	Ronald L Campbell Sr	12/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Salem County S W A C	Timothy Bradway	12/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Tax Search Officer	D. Michelle Allen	12/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Utility Collector	D. Michelle Allen	12/31/2022 (1 yr)
* Zoning Official/Housing Official	John Carney	12/31/2022 (1 yr)
Board of Health		
Members:	Township Committee	All Terms Expire
Member:	D. Michelle Allen	12/31/2022
Secretary:	Township Clerk	

SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Insurance Commission			All Terms Expire 12/31/2022
Members:	Timothy Bradway Paul Collier Jeffrey Palombo		
	Secretary: Township Clerk		
Administration	Chairperson Timothy Bradway	Vice-Chair Paul Collier	All Terms Expire 12/31/2022
Ambulance	Chairperson Paul Collier	Vice-Chair Richard Venable	All Terms Expire 12/31/2022
Buildings & Grounds	Chairperson Richard Venable	Vice-Chair Jeffrey Palombo	All Terms Expire 12/31/2022
Finance Committee	Chairperson Timothy Bradway	Vice-Chair Paul Collier Laura Crane	All Terms Expire 12/31/2022
Fire Company	Chairperson Richard Venable	Vice-Chair Jeffrey Palombo	All Terms Expire 12/31/2022
Historical	Chairperson Laura Crane	Vice-Chair Paul Collier	All Terms Expire 12/31/2022
Public Works	Chairperson Paul Collier	Vice-Chair Richard Venable	All Terms Expire 12/31/2022
Sanitation	Chairperson Jeffrey Palombo	Vice-Chair Richard Venable	All Terms Expire 12/31/2022
Senior Citizens	Chairperson Jeffrey Palombo	Vice-Chair Laura Crane	All Terms Expire 12/31/2022

The motion for Resolution 2022-16, a resolution to appoint various; Officers of the Township, Sub-Committees of the Township Committee and other Board members passed a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

Ayes: Venable, Collier, Crane, Palombo and Bradway

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: none

Motion (Venable, Palombo) for Resolution 2022-31, a Resolution authorizing the auction sale of items no longer needed for public use, using the Online Auction Site GovDeals.com.

RESOLUTION 2022- 31

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF SURPLUS PUBLIC PROPERTY ITEMS AT GOVDEALS.COM ONLINE AUCTION.

WHEREAS, The Township of Lower Alloways Creek has surplus public property items,

which it no longer has need of for public service; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A 11-36 authorizes municipalities to offer for sale, public property which is no longer needed for public service; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee does authorize the following items:

1. 11 - 5' Fire hose
2. 12 - 1 1/2 " Fire hose
3. 10 - 2 1/2' Fire hose
4. 8 - 5" fittings
5. 2 - 2 1/2 short Fire hose
6. 2 - 1 1/2 short Fire hose
7. 2 - 4' short Fire hose
8. 1 - 5' Fitting connector only- (end cut off of hoses)

be offered for auction online through Govdeals.com whose headquarters are located in Montgomery Alabama, pursuant to New Jersey Public Property Laws and Local Finance Notice 2008-09.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township Committee of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek does authorize the sale of this surplus public property by online auction at Govdeals.com and does authorize the Purchasing Agent to negotiate with Govdeals.com as to the terms and conditions of their commission and any other particulars pertaining to the auction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the terms and conditions of the online auction be available at the Municipal Clerk's Office and available through the auction website pursuant to Local Finance Notice 2008-09.

The motion for Resolution 2022-31, a resolution authorizing the auction sale of items no longer needed for public use, using the Online Auction Site GovDeals.com passed a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

Ayes: Venable, Palombo Collier, Crane and Bradway

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: none

Motion (Venable, Collier) for Resolution 2022- 32, a resolution to approve an agreement with Pennsville Township for Animal Shelter services through February 28, 2022.

RESOLUTION 2022-32

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF LOWER ALLOWAYS CREEK AND PENNSVILLE TOWNSHIP FOR ANIMAL SHELTERING SERVICES.

Whereas, the Township of Lower Alloways Creek recognizes the need and benefit to its residents to have available Animal Sheltering services, and;

WHEREAS, the Township of Pennsville has Animal Sheltering facilities available to for use by the Township of Lower Alloways Creek, and;

WHEREAS the Township of Lower Alloways Creek can benefit by entering into an agreement for Animal Sheltering Services with the Township of Pennsville, and;

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has provided a certification of availability of funds in the amount of \$1,400.00 (one thousand four hundred dollars) for the 2022 Budget (account # 22-01-27-340-203).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Lower Alloways Creek in the County of Salem, and the State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Clerk of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek are hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the Township of Pennsville for Animal Sheltering Services at a cost of \$1,400.00 (one thousand- four hundred dollars) for the period of January 1, 2022 through February 28, 2022

The motion for Resolution 2022-32, a resolution to approve an agreement with Pennsville Township for Animal Shelter services through February 28, 2022 passed a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

Ayes: Venable, Collier, Crane, Palombo and Bradway

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: none

Motion (Venable, Collier) for Resolution 2022-33, a resolution to appoint Stacy Davis as Electric Sub Code Official and Electric Sub Code Inspector.

RESOLUTION 2022 – 33

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING STACY DAVIS AS ELECTRICAL SUB CODE OFFICIAL AND INSPECTOR

WHEREAS, the Township of Lower Alloways Creek does find its self in need of a Electrical Sub Code Official and Electrical Sub Code Inspector

WHEREAS, Stacy Davis is available to be the Electrical Sub Code Official and Inspector; and

WHEREAS, John Palumbo, Construction Official, has recommended the appointment of Stacy Davis; and

WHEREAS, Stacy Davis possessed the necessary qualification to serve in this position; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee deems it to be in the best interest of the residents of the Township to fill this position with Stacy Davis; and

WHEREAS, compensation will be as set per Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek in the County of Salem and State of New Jersey that Stacy Davis is hereby appointed as Electrical Sub Code Official and Electrical Sub Code Inspector for the Township of Lower Alloways Creek effective retroactive to January 1, 2022

The motion for Resolution 2022-33, a resolution to appoint Stacy Davis as Electric Sub Code Official and Electric Sub Code Inspector passed a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

Ayes: Venable, Collier, Crane, Palombo and Bradway

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: none

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION

Motion (Venable, Collier) to introduce Ordinance 2022-01, an ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget CAP and establish a CAP Bank in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14.

ORDINANCE 2022-01

CALENDAR YEAR 2022

AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Alloways Creek Township Committee of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek in the County of Salem finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2022 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Alloways Creek Township Committee hereby determines that a 1% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$ 57,132.94 in excess of the increase in final appropriation otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Alloways Creek Township Committee hereby determines that any amount authorized herein above that is not appropriated, as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Lower Alloways Creek Township Committee of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek, in the County of Salem, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2022 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to **\$199,965.41**, and that the CY 2022 municipal budget for the Township of Lower Alloways Creek be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within five (5) days introduction; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director with five (5) days after such adoption.

Public Hearing on this Ordinance shall be on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., at the Municipal Building, 501 Locust Island Road, Hancock's Bridge, New Jersey.

This Ordinance which was introduced for First Reading on Tuesday January 18, 2022 shall be published by Title in the South Jersey Times and placed on the Township's Bulletin Board giving notice of said Public Hearing as required by Law.

The motion to introduce Ordinance 2022-01, an ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget CAP and establish a CAP Bank in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14 was passed by a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

Ayes: Venable, Collier, Crane, Palombo and Bradway

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: none

OLD BUSINESS

Windport

Mayor Bradway reported that he had participated in a virtual online meeting earlier today of the New Jersey Wind Port Diversity and Local Engagement Advisory Committee. Mayor Bradway stated that most of the meeting was about the recent Job Fair which had over 150 participants, along with local union being represented. Gloucester Vocational School will be a training facility for Painting (auto body shop) and Welding, Salem Vo-tech will be included at a later time for these trainings. Currently South State and Pearson are contracted to do ground work and pilings. Mayor Bradway stated that there will be another round of offshore wind turbine area leases approved on February 3rd.

The Committee discuss ways to get revenue from the port and it was suggested to look into possibly getting a consultant to lobby for the Township and that the Mayor should be the lead for the Committee in this area.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion (Venable, Collier) to set February 8th at 6:00 pm for a budget meeting.

The motion to set February 8th at 6:00 pm for a budget meeting was passed unanimously by a voice vote of the Township Committee. 5-0

The Committee talked about going paperless for meeting agendas and asked the clerk to look into the cost of laptops or tablets for each of the committee to use at meetings.

CORRESPONDENCE: All correspondence received has been distributed to the proper parties

Mayor Bradway stated that he had participated in an online meeting with county officials and Inspira with regards to Covid.

Mayor Bradway stated that PSEG's next outage begins on April 9th and that there will be a FEMA inspection May 9th and a State Emergency Preparedness Drill on May 10th.

Mayor Bradway also stated that PSEG will be holding an event to help non-profit organizations apply for funding coming up in March. They are asking that any group that is interested to contact Theresa Widger, the Mayor or Clerk have her contact information.

Motion (Collier, Palombo) to send a letter to the County Commissioners to ask for matching ARP funds from the county, to be used for Broadband and cellular upgrades in the Township.

The motion to send a letter to the County Commissioners to ask for matching ARP funds from the county, to be used for Broadband and cellular upgrades in the Township was passed by a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

Ayes: Collier, Palombo, Crane, Venable and Bradway

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: none

REPORTS TO THE COMMITTEE & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Works:

Superintendent Fogg stated that the Leisure Arms Lunch program is in need of part time food service workers.

The Committee had a discussion with the Superintendent regarding salads, fruit and how food is purchased and from where. It may be possible to order with the school to get the quantities and lower prices that are desired.

Motion (Palombo, Collier) to advertise for Part Time as needed Food Service Workers for the Senior Lunch Program.

The motion to advertise for Part Time as needed Food Service Workers for the Senior Lunch Program was passed by a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

Ayes: Palombo, Collier, Crane, Venable and Bradway

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: none

Motion (Crane, Collier) to advertise for a part-time Food Service Worker.

The motion to advertise for a part-time Food Service Worker was passed by a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

Ayes: Crane, Collier, Palombo, Venable and Bradway

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: none

Police Department:

Chief Venable spoke with the Committee about the purchase of new Medical Alert boxes, 16 of the newer style med alerts are needed as the old ones it is cost prohibitive to reprogram. Chief Venable stated that the newer units are approximately \$250.00 each.

Chief Venable stated that the department has been having issues with their current Alcohol testing Equipment and would like to setup a shared services with Salem City, which has a unit that qualified LACPD personnel are now maintaining for Salem City PD, because they have no one qualified. Chief Venable would like to enter into an arrangement where LACPD keeps doing the maintenance and upkeep of Salem's Machine for the use of the machine by LACPD when necessary. The Solicitor suggested the Chief find out from the County Prosecutor's Office is there would be any legal issues with regard to prosecutions if this arrangement was made.

Motion (Palombo, Venable) to purchase seventeen Med Alerts at a cost not to exceed \$4,500.00.

The motion to purchase seventeen Med Alerts at a cost not to exceed \$4,500.00 was passed by a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

Ayes: Palombo, Venable, Collier, Crane and Bradway

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: none

Fire Department:

Chief Fisher stated that there had been several incidents recently where CO detectors failed and the home's occupants were dangerously close to not having enough oxygen. Chief Fisher suggests a message on the sign out front reminding people to replace their CO and Smoke detector batteries.

Chief Fisher stated that there is a meeting scheduled by the Wind Port officials with local OEM agencies to clarify some issues.

Chief Fisher suggests that LAC agencies get together and meet about the rising tidal conditions and the issues that have begun to be experienced because of them recently.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

A local resident commented that a proposed sewer connection for a new house on Harmersville Pecks Corner Road, he feels how the connection is to be made to an existing home lateral has not had the proper load determined, to see that it is capable of handling the water from two homes. The resident continued that by doing what is proposed means digging close to a row of trees and a utility pole. The resident wants to know who will be responsible for removing the trees if they die and if the pole sinks or begins to lean. The resident stated that he is not sure this has been thought through on what could happen.

No one else from the Public indicated that they wished to make any comments.

Mayor and Committee Members

No one from the Committee had any further comments.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion (Venable, Collier) for a resolution to convene into a Closed Session of Business. 8:30

RESOLUTION 2022 – 34
A RESOLUTION FOR A CLOSED SESSION

WHEREAS, in order to protect personal privacy and to avoid situations wherein the public interest might be disserved, the Open Public Meetings Act permits public bodies to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which certain matters are discussed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek that a portion of the meeting of the Township Committee be closed to the public to enable the Township Committee to discuss, and where appropriate, take action concerning the following matter(s) as permitted in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

____ 3. Any material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy such as records, data, reports, recommendations, or other personal material of any educational, training, social service, medical, health, custodial, child protection, rehabilitation, legal defense, welfare, housing, relocation, insurance and similar program or institution operated by a public body pertaining to any individual admitted to or served by such institution or program, including but not limited to information relative to the individual's personal and family circumstances, and any material pertaining to admission, discharge, treatment, progress or condition of any individual, unless the individual concerned (or, in the case of a minor or incompetent, his guardian) shall request in writing that the same be disclosed publicly.

____ 6. Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public, provided that their disclosure could impair such protection. Any investigations of violations or possible violations of the law.

____ 7. Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation other than in (4) above in which the public body is, or may become a party. Any matter falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer.

____ 8. Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting.

More specifically, the matter to be discussed involves the following:

1. Personnel
2. Litigation - Grievance

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the matters discussed will be available for public inspection

1. At such time the matter is concluded
2. At such time the matter is concluded

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Closed Session is expected to continue for fifteen (15) minutes and there after the regular meeting would then reconvene and further business by the Committee will not take place at its conclusion.

Motion (Venable, Collier) to come out of Closed Session and return to Open Session business of the Committee. 8:45 pm

The motion to come out of Closed Session and return to Open Session business of the Committee passed a unanimous voice vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

ADJOURNMENT

Motion (Venable, Collier) to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

The motion to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously.

Minutes of the January 18, 2022 Meeting were approved at a Township Committee Meeting held February 15, 2022

ATTEST:

LOWER ALLOWAYS CREEK TOWNSHIP

Ronald L Campbell Sr. Clerk

Mayor, Timothy W. Bradway